GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2121
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2016
Medical Ethics
Somaiya Dr. Kirit

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Code of Medical Ethics Regulation bars doctors and doctors association from taking gifts and sponsorship from pharma companies, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is aware that the Medical Council of India recently amended and notified the new ethical guidelines by which the doctors association can accept freebies from pharma companies, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this amendment allows various doctor''s association to accept freebies from pharma companies and encourage corruption, if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;

(d) whether the Government proposes to review the matter, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective measures taken by the Government to check doctors pharma companies nexus to loot poor patients?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a) to (d): Yes. Clause 6.8 of the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 regulate the conduct of medical doctors in relation to acceptance of gifts, travel facilities, hospitality, cash or monetary grants, medical research, affiliation & endorsement. This includes endorsement of any drug or product of the industry publically. The Regulations, 2002 is applicable on all doctors.
(e): MCI or the appropriate State Medical Councils have been empowered to take disciplinary action against a doctor for violation of the provisions of the aforesaid Regulations. As and when complaints are received against the violation of code of ethics for doctors, such complaints are referred by MCI to the concerned State Medical Councils where the doctors/medical practitioners are registered. The MCI is an Appellate Authority.